

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please amend paragraph no. [0032] as follows:**

[0032] FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional view of a welt in accordance with another preferred embodiment of the invention; and

**Please add after paragraph no. [0032] the following paragraph:**

FIG. 7 is a cross-sectional, schematic view of a welt in accordance with yet another preferred embodiment of the invention.

**Please add after paragraph no. [0044] the following paragraph:**

Finally, Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional, schematic view of an embodiment in which the lower fastening element has a Christmas-tree shaped profile.